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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/796,992	03/11/2004	Hyun-cheol Park	Q80291	4637
23373	7590	03/26/2007	EXAMINER	
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037			AMADIZ, RODNEY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2629	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/26/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/796,992	PARK ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Rodney Amadiz	2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 March 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 18-21 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-3,9-11 and 17 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 4-8,12-16,22 and 23 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 11 March 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-3, 9-11 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EO (WO/2002/31636—herein referred to as "EO") in view of Kushler et al. (U.S. Patent 5,945,928).

As to Claim 1, EO teaches an apparatus for inputting Korean vowels, the apparatus comprising: a gesture database that stores codes of a first set of Korean vowels (**Fig. 3, Database Unit and Pg. 5, line 20—Pg. 6, line 2, Pg. 8, lines 22-23**

and Pg. 10, lines 7-8), wherein the codes of the first set of the Korean vowels correspond to gestures (Pg. 10, lines 7-8 and Pg. 12, Table 2); and a gesture confirmation unit that searches the gesture database, and then selects and outputs a corresponding code of a Korean vowel of the first set of Korean vowels based on a gesture input by the user (Syllable decision unit—Pg. 6, line 3—Pg. 7, line 14 and Pg. 9, lines 1-3). EO; however, fails to teach inputting the Korean vowels by use of a touch screen. Examiner cites, Kushler to teach inputting Korean vowels through use of a touchscreen (***See Figs. 2-3 and Col. 3, lines 5-10.*** At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the use of a touchscreen as taught by Kushler in the apparatus taught by EO, in order to make the overall size of the display smaller and to facilitate the method of inputting characters in the apparatus.

As to **Claim 2**, EO, as modified by Kushler, teaches a touched area confirmation unit that checks whether an area touched by the user is a vowel area or not, based on touched area signals representing the area touched by the user on the touch screen (***EO—Pg. 9, lines 16-23 and Pg. 13, line 19—Pg. 14, line 14,*** and if the area touched by the user is the vowel area, outputs the touched area signals to the gesture confirmation unit (***EO—Pg. 13, line 19—Pg. 14, line 14,*** wherein the gesture confirmation unit checks whether the touched area signals correspond to the gesture or not , and if the touched area signals correspond to the gesture, searches the gesture database, and then selects and outputs the corresponding code of the Korean vowel of the first set of Korean vowels corresponding to the gesture (***EO—Pg. 6, line 3—Pg. 7,***

line 14 and Pg. 9, lines 1-3 and Pg. 10, lines 7-8 and Pg. 12, Table 2 and lines 12-15).

As to **Claim 3**, EO, as modified by Kushler, teaches the gesture confirmation unit determining the touched area signals as corresponding to the gesture if the touched area signals are generated for a stroking action in a vowel area displayed on the touch screen (***EO—Fig. 4, See Vowel Input Section and Pg. 6, line 3—Pg. 7, line 14 and Pg. 9, lines 1-3 and Pg. 10, lines 7-8 and Pg. 12, Table 2 and lines 12-15).***

As to **Claim 9**, EO teaches a method of inputting Korean vowels, the method comprising: (a) receiving a gesture input (***Fig. 12, Table 2, note Input Signal Order and Fig. 3, Database Unit and Pg. 5, line 20—Pg. 6, line 2, Pg. 8, lines 22-23 and Pg. 10, lines 7-8;*** (b) determining a Korean vowel of a first set of Korean vowels corresponding to the gesture (***Pg. 10, lines 7-8 and Pg. 12, Table 2)***; and (c) outputting the Korean vowel (***Pg. 6, line 3—Pg. 7, line 14 and Pg. 9, lines 1-3—note Syllable decision unit.***) EO; however, fails to teach inputting the Korean vowels by use of a touch screen. Examiner cites, Kushler to teach inputting Korean vowels through use of a touchscreen (***See Figs. 2-3 and Col. 3, lines 5-10.***). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the use of a touchscreen as taught by Kushler in the apparatus taught by EO, in order to make the overall size of the display smaller and to facilitate the method of inputting characters in the apparatus.

As to **Claim 10**, EO, as modified by Kushler, teaches (a1) deciding whether an area touched by the user on the touch screen, in a touching action, is a vowel area or

not (*EO—See Fig. 4 and note Vowel section*); and (a2) checking whether the touching action of the user on the touch screen is the gesture or not, if the area touched by the user is the vowel area (*Pg. 12, lines 12-15 and Pg. 13, line 19—Pg. 14, line 14*).

As to Claim 11, EO, as modified by Kushler, teaches (a2) determining the touching action to be the gesture if the touching action is a stroking action in the vowel area displayed on the touch screen (*EO—See Fig. 4 and note Vowel section and Pg. 13, line 19—Pg. 14, line 14*).

As to Claim 17, EO teaches a computer readable medium having embodied thereon a computer program for a method of inputting Korean language characters, the method comprising: (a) receiving a gesture input by a user (*EO—See Fig. 4 and note Vowel section and Pg. 11, Table 1 and Pg. 12, Table 2*); (b) determining a Korean vowel corresponding to the gesture (*Pg. 10, lines 7-8 and Pg. 12, Table 2*); and (c) outputting the Korean vowel (*Pg. 6, line 3—Pg. 7, line 14 and Pg. 9, lines 1-3—note Syllable decision unit*).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 4 and 12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 5-8, 13-16, 22 and 23 are dependent upon Claims 4 and 12, and are therefore also objected.
4. Claim 18 is allowed. Claims 19-21 are dependent upon claim 18 and are therefore also allowable.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

O'Dell et al.	U.S. Patent 6,864,809
Yeong-Jik Lee	KR 10-2001-0039239
Gwan-Hyeon Cho	KR 10-2001-0073483
Jeon-Ho Park	KR 10-2002-0084905
Yeong-Su Kim	KR 10-2000-0028412
Du-Hyeon Yoon	KR 10-2002-0022973
Seong-Hyeok Park	KR 10-2002-0037568
Seong-Eun Bang	KR 10-2002-0087632
Yeong-Gi Han	KR 10-2003-0053971
Jun-Mo Jeong	KR 10-2003-0059019
Jin-Hui Choi	KR 10-2003-0081929

Inquiries

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rodney Amadiz whose telephone number is (571) 272-7762. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sumati Lefkowitz can be reached on (571) 272-3638. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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